

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the present Application. Applicant has amended claims 1, 7, 8 and 15. Consequently, claims 1-15 remain pending in the present Application.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 to more clearly recite that the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment. Claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 previously recited that the point of sale equipment has the device. Furthermore, as described in the specification, the devices includes the specialized devices such as scanners. Specification, page 9, line 21-page 10, line 5 and page 5, lines 5-13. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that no new search is required. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter is added.

In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5-10 and 12-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,088,033 ("Binkley"). The Examiner also rejected claims 4 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in light of Binkley in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,812,668 ("Weber").

The Examiner also rejected Claims 1-3, 5-10 and 12-15 as being anticipated by Binkley. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection. Claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 recite methods, a system and computer-readable media for developing an application on a development system independently of a point of sale system. The application is for use with point of sale equipment having a device. The application is capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment. The method recited in claim 1 includes the steps of "providing an emulation module corresponding to the device . . ." The method recited in claim 1 also recites that the emulation module and the application "emulate the interaction between the

application and the device that occurs when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment.” Claim 1 also recites that the device is specialized for point of sale equipment. Claims 8, 14 and 15 recite analogous system and computer-readable media claims.

Similarly, claim 7 recites a method for testing an application on a development system independently of a point of sale system. The application is for use with point of sale equipment having a device. The method recited in claim 7 includes the steps of providing an emulation object corresponding to the device, ensuring that the application will utilize the emulation object when the application is executed on the development system and ensuring that the application adequately utilizes the emulation object. Claim 7 further recites that the device is specialized for point of sale equipment.

Thus, independent claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 recite methods, a system and computer readable media, which are used to emulate the environment, including a device in a point of sale system. The emulation of the point of sale system is accomplished on a development system independent of the point of sale equipment. Claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 specifically recite that an emulation module corresponding to the device that is part of the point of sale equipment is utilized. Claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 all recite that the interaction between the application and the device that is part of the point of sale system is emulated. Thus, claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 all specifically recite that the methods, system and computer readable media are for a point of sale system.

Furthermore, claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 all recite that the device is used with the point of sale system and that the device is specially made for the point of sale devices. Claim 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 also recite that these devices are specialized for use with point of sale equipment. The devices which

are used in point of sale equipment can be very different from those normally used in conjunction with a computer system. For example, although keyboards are used with point of sale equipment, bar code scanners, scales and other devices such as a cash register are also typically used with point of sale equipment. Specification, page 1, lines 11-16. As a result, the methods, system and computer readable media recited in claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 recite that these specialized devices are used and that the emulation module emulates these specialized devices.

Binkley fails to teach or suggest a method, system or computer readable medium that is used to emulate an interaction between an application and a point of sale system and that the emulation module used emulates devices that are particular to the point of sale system. Binkley does describe a system used in emulating a “target system.” Binkley, col. 1, lines 60-62. However, Binkley is directed very generally to emulation of systems on which an application is to run. More specifically, Binkley appears to be directed at a system which provides a separate “emulating processor” that allows the processor of the host system to continue normal operation and emulates the functions of the target system. Binkley, col. 2, lines 25-35 and Abstract, lines 1-7. Applicant can find no mention in Binkley of a point of sale system. Applicant can find no mention in Binkley of any mechanism for developing applications for a point of sale system.

More specifically, Applicant can find no mention in Binkley of emulating a device that is part of, or specially designed for, a point of sale system. Binkley merely describes emulating devices such as a different type of display. Binkley, col. 3, lines 62-66. Such devices are typically part of conventional computer systems, rather than a point of sale system. Consequently, although Binkley does teach that conventional devices associated with a computer can be emulated using

certain routines, Binkley fails to describe or suggest a mechanism for emulating the unusual type of devices, such as scales, generally used in conjunction with a point of sale system. Consequently, Binkley cannot teach or suggest the methods, system and computer-readable media recited in claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 are allowable over the cited references.

Claims 2-3 and 5-6 depend on independent claim 1. Claims 9-10 and 12-13 depend on independent claim 8. Consequently, the arguments herein apply with full force to claims 2-3, 5-6, 9-10 and 12-13. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-3, 5-6, 9-10 and 12-13 are also allowable over the cited references.

The Examiner also rejected claims 4 and 11 as being unpatentable over Binkley in view of Weber. The Examiner cited Weber as disclosing a JAVA application.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection. Claims 4 and 11 depend upon independent claims 1 and 8, respectively. Accordingly, the arguments herein apply with full force to claims 4 and 11. In addition, Applicant agrees that the cited portion of Weber teach the use of a JAVA application in the context of developing the application for a sale system. However, the cited portion of Weber cannot teach or suggest the combination of elements recited in claims 4 and 11. The cited portion of Weber contains no mention of the use of an emulation object for emulating the device of the point of sale system on a development system that is independent of the point of sale system. The cited portion of Weber also fails to discuss emulating a device specialized for use with the point of sale system. Consequently, Weber cannot remedy the defect of Binkley. Accordingly,

Applicant respectfully submits that Binkley in view of Weber cannot teach or suggest the method and system recited in claims 4 and 11, respectively,

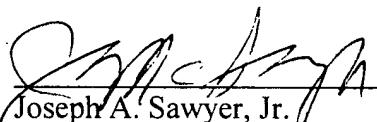
Accordingly, for the above-mentioned reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are allowable over the cited reference. Consequently, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims as currently presented.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issue remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Twice Amended) A method for providing a point of sale environment for developing an application on a development system independently of a point of sale system, the application for use with point of sale equipment having a device, the application capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing an emulation module corresponding to the device;
- (b) ensuring that the application will utilize the emulation module when the application is executed on the development system; and
- (c) executing the application on the development system independently of the point of sale system, wherein the emulation module and the application emulate the interaction between the application and the device that occurs when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment;

wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.

7. (Amended) A method for testing an application on a development system, the application for use with point of sale equipment having a device, the application capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing an emulation object corresponding to the device;
- (b) ensuring that the application will utilize the emulation object when the application is executed on the development system;

- (c) executing the application on the development system;
- (d) ensuring that the application adequately utilizes the emulation object; and
- (e) executing the application on the point of sale equipment;

wherein when the application is executed on the development system, the emulation module and the application emulate the interaction between the application and the device that occurs when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment; and
wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.

8. (Amended) A system for developing an application for use with point of sale equipment having a device, the application capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment, the system comprising:

an emulation module corresponding to the device; and

means for ensuring that the application will utilize the emulation module when the application is executed on the development system;

wherein when the application is executed on the system, the emulation module and the application emulate the interaction between the application and the device that occurs when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment; and

wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.

14. (Amended) A computer readable medium containing at least one program for testing an application on a development system, the application for use with point of sale equipment having a

device, the application capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment, the program containing instructions for:

providing an emulation module corresponding to the device;

wherein the application is capable of utilizing the emulation module in lieu of the device when the application is executed on the development system and;

wherein when the application is executed on the development system, the emulation module and the application emulate the interaction between the application and the device that occurs when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment;

wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.

15. (Amended) A computer readable medium containing at least one program for facilitating development of an application on a development system, the application for use with point of sale equipment having a device, the application capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment, the program containing instructions for:

emulating the interaction between the application and the device;

allowing a developer to provide input; and

providing the input to the application in a form expected from the device;

wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.